

Medical Issues for Case Managers

Doug Beebe

Director, Bureau of Aging and In-Home Services

317-232-7123

DSBeebe@fssa.state.in.us

Common Threads

- Medically Fragile Children
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Support Services
- Developmental Disabilities
- Aged & Disabled
- Autism
- Assisted Living

Common Risk Factors

- Incontinence
- Dehydration
- Malnutrition
- Immobility
- Polypharmacolgy
- Abuse/Neglect
- Hygiene

Additional Risk Factors

- Maladaptive Behaviors
- Communication impairments
- Environmental factors
- Mental Illness
- Impaired mental states
- Intermittent access to medical care
- Metabolic Problems

Incontinence

- Stress
- Urgency
- Paradoxical
- Continuous

Dehydration

- Poor fluid intake
- Poor swallowing skills
- Inappropriate fluid intake
- Diabetes
- Medications

Malnutrition

- Improper diet
- Poor swallowing
- Poor income
- Lousy food
- Choice issues

Immobility

- Physical disabilities
- Physical impairments
- Mental impairments
- Repositioning
- Decubitus ulcers

Polypharmacology

- Many of our folks are on multiple medications
- Storage
- Labeling
- Utilization
- Interactions
- Medication History for physicians

Abuse/Neglect

- Reporting
- Signs
- Training
- Mandated Reporting

Hygiene

- Hair Care
- Nail Care
- Body odor
- Clothing
- Toilets
- General House Appearance

Restricted Mobility

- Promote independence
- Motivate and set goals
- Prevent injury
- Reduce/eliminate complications
- Teach skills/promote positive self-image
- Counseling for long-term

Comfortable Environment

- 68 to 72 degrees-higher for the elderly and some physically immobile
- 30% to 60% humidity
- Good lighting
- Cleanliness

Sensory Stimulation

- Therapeutic Touch
- Assessment will prevent over- or under-stimulation
- Illness can intensify responses
- Address noise and odors

Promoting Safety

- Illness can weaken and impair judgment
- Leads to accidents
- Recognize and address hazards-assist the individual in recognizing as well
- Ensure lifting and assisted movement is safe
- Don't forget about the staff

Preventing Complications

- For the bedridden-
- Bony prominences
- Venous/Pulmonary function
- Disuse of muscles and joints
- Pressure ulcers, thrombi, cellulitis, pneumonia
- Positioning, skin care, ROM

Promoting (Re)Habilitation

- Positioning
- Transfers
- Training in assistive devices
- Family and friend education
- Positive reinforcement